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Aug 28th 2018

Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am a consumer who supports broadband competition. Urban Los Angeles, where I live, has long been blighted by telecommunication giants dividing the city into zones so that consumers have no alternatives. My home was in an area 'served' by Time Warner who were then purchased by Spectrum. They were the only provider in the area and the result unsurprisingly was high costs, slow internet, and legendarily bad customer service. Not only that but they are taking advantage of loosening data privacy regulations to sell my browsing data to 3rd parties without my knowledge or consent.

After years of this, I became aware of a small local ISP who is able to provide great service at a lower price with terrific customer service and a well-earned reputation for never selling my browsing data. I switched immediately and have never looked back.

The economy in this country takes place on the internet more than ever before. Broadband connections are no longer a luxury or just a nice thing to have--they are necessary to participate in our economy and our culture. Please do everything you can to maintain competition in this industry so that this vital infrastructure is accessible to all of us into the future.

Thank you,

ben kalenik